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COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN
Forty-second session
2-13 March 1998
Agenda item 3 (c)

FOLLOW-UP TO THE FOURTH WORLD CONFERENCE ON WOMEN:
IMPLEMENTATION OF STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES AND ACTION
IN THE CRITICAL AREAS OF CONCERN

Angola, Bangladesh,* Botswana,* Kyrgyzstan,* Lesotho,
Malawi,* Marshall Islands,* Mauritius,* Morocco,
Namibia,* Pakistan,* South Africa,* Swaziland,
Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania,* Zambia*
and Zimbabwe*: draft resolution

The girl child

The Commission on the Status of Women,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 52/100 of 12 December 1997,

Also recalling all relevant conferences and human rights instruments as they concern the girl child,

Noting with appreciation the expert group meeting on adolescent girls and their rights, held at Addis Ababa from 13 to 17 October 1997, which was jointly organized by the Division for the Advancement of Women, the United Nations Children's Fund, the United Nations Population Fund and the Economic Commission for Africa,

Deeply concerned about the discrimination against the girl child and the violation of the rights of the girl child, which often result in less access for girls to education, nutrition, physical and mental health care, in girls enjoying fewer rights, opportunities and benefits of childhood and adolescence

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* In accordance with rule 69 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council.

than boys and often being subjected to various forms of cultural, social, sexual and economic exploitation, and in violence and harmful practices, such as incest, early marriage, female infanticide, prenatal sex selection and female genital mutilation,

Taking note of the panel discussion held on the critical areas of concern on the girl child during the forty-second session of the Commission,

Stressing the need for more awareness-raising at the global level on the plight of the girl child,

1. Demands that Governments, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, as appropriate, ensure the full and urgent implementation of the rights of the girl child, as guaranteed to her under all human rights instruments, including the Convention on the Rights of the Child[1] and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms Discrimination against Women;[2]

2. Calls upon the Secretary-General to appoint a special ambassador to raise awareness on the special needs and concerns of the girl child;

3. Requests Governments, the United Nations system and non-governmental organizations to give due account to the recommendations contained in the report of the expert group meeting on adolescent girls and their rights;

4. Requests the Secretary-General to submit a report to the Commission on the Status of Women prior to the five-year review of the Fourth World Conference on Women in the year 2000, and thereafter on a biennial basis, on the initiatives and progress made in the implementation of the Platform for Action[3] adopted by the Fourth World Conference on Women relating to the Girl Child.

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[1] General Assembly resolution 44/25.

[2] General Assembly resolution 34/180.

[3] Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995 (United Nations publication, Sales No. 96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.